Violation of RBI Norms

1287. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of FI NANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the norms laid down by Reserve Bank of India, all loans are to be disbursed within a period of 60 days from the date of application;

(b) whether the local head office of the State Bank of India, New Delhi is flouting these norms in disbursing of loans within the stipulated period;

(c) if so, the total number of cases pending with the SBI in Delhi with the names of firms, amount of advance applied, number of instalments paid in each case; and

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DE-BIPROSAD PAL): (a) While in terms of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines* a time frame of 60 days has been prescribed for sanction of fresh/enhanced credit limits provided applications/proposals are received together with required details/information supported by requisite financial and operating statements, no time frame has been prescribed by RBI for disbursement of loan facilities.

(b) State Bank of India (SBI), Local Head Office, New Delhi has reported that eventhough no time frame for disbursement has been stipulated by RBI, disbursements are being effected by the bank immediately after all formalities are completed by the borrowers.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Cotton Prices

1288. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the current prices of cotton are much lower than the last year and even then there are no buyers and the crop is stocked as it is in the fields;

(b) if so, what remedial measures Government are contemplating to take to clear it in the interest of farmers; and

(c) whether this sort of situation will affect its future produce?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) Though the current prices of cotton are lower in comparison to the exceptionally high prices that prevailed last year, they are ruling muc'i above the support prices. During the current year, cotton equivalent to an estimated 90.45 lakh bales is reported to have arrived in the market as on 23.2.96 as compared to 77.57 lakh bales during the corresponding period last year.

Government of kidia have as of date, released a quota of 9.15 lakh bales of cotton for export this year. Government is monitoring the situation.

Price Rigging in Bombay Stock Exchange

1289. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many firms registered with Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) rigged the price;

(b) if so, the number of firms involved in the price rigging;

(c) what action Government propose to take against such firms; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent the price rigging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROS AD PAL): (a) and (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), which is the regulatory authority for the securities market and for stock Exchanges, has informed that there are many scrips in which abnormal increase in prices has been noticed. In some of these cases price rigging is suspected and about 45 such cases are under enquiry/ investigation.

(c) and (d) SEBI takes appropriate penal action under the SEBI Act, and Rules and Regulations framed thereunder in case market manipulation is established by investigations being carried out "by it. Specifically, SEBI (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade practices relating to Securities Markets) Regulations, 1995 would enable SEBI to take prompt and effective action rigging of share prices.

Liquidity crisis in Corporate Sector

1290. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appear ing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 15th February, 1996 stating that the total deposit mobilisation by scheduled com mercial banks of the country in the first nine month of 1995-96 has declined by a staggering Rs. 9,000 crore compared to previous year thereby accentuating the liquidity crisis in corporate sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard: and

(c) what are the details of the decline in public and private sector commercial banks during the first nine months of 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) .has reported that the aggregate deposits of scheduled commercial banks showed an increase of Rs. 39181 crore in the first nine months of 1995-96 *i.e.* between March 17, 1995 and December 22, 1995 which is lower than the increase of Rs. 43613 crore in the corresponding period of 1994-95, by Rs. 4432 crores. However, the aggregate deposits of scheduled commercial banks during the 1995-96 so far that is from March 17, 1995 to February 16, 1996 increased by Rs. 45336 crores as compared with Rs. 48232 crores in the com-parable period of 1994-95 thus reducing the decrease to Rs. 2896 crores.

Various measures have been announced by the RBI during the second half of 1995-96 to step up mobilisation of bank deposits. The interest rates on domestic deposits having maturity of over 2 years have been deregulated from October, 1995. The interest rates on deposits under Non-Resident (External) Rupee (NRE) Accounts have been increased in stages from 'not exceeding 8.0 per cent per annum' to 'not exceeding 12.0 per cent per annum' effective October 31, 1995. The average cash reserve ratio (CRR) on outstanding net demand and time liabilities has been reduced from 15.0 per cent to 14.0 per cent. The deposit under Non-Resident, Non-Repa-triable Rupee (NRNR) Accounts and Foreign currency Non-Resident Accounts (Banks)(FCNR) (B) Scheme have been exempted from the maintenance of cash reserve ratio. The average CRR on liabilities under Non-Resident (External) Rupee (NRE) accounts has been reduced from 15.0 pei cent to 10.0 per cent and the incremental deposits under this scheme have been exempted from the maintenance of the average cash reserve ratio.

दूरदर्शन चैनल-3 द्वारा सरकारी नीतियां और कार्यक्रमों का प्रसारण न किया जाना

1291. **श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगें कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने दूरदर्शन के सभी चैनलों पर गणतंत्र दिवस की पूर्व संध्या पर राष्ट्रपति का राष्ट्र के नाम संदेश प्रसारित करने का निर्देश दूरदर्शन को दिया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच हैं कि दूरदर्शन के चैनल-3 ने राष्ट्रपति के संदेश का प्रसारण नहीं किया और यह चैनल सरकार की नीतियों कार्यक्रमों आदि का कभी भी प्रसारण नहीं करता;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और क्या सरकार ने संबंधित अधिकारियों की जिम्मेदारी निथत की हैं; और